



The Northland Sky Watcher

NWS DLH

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*For National Weather Service Weather
Watchers of northeastern Minnesota and
northwestern Wisconsin.*



Everyone Loves A Parade

Staff and families of the Duluth National Weather Service Office participated in Hermantown's SummerFest Parade in July to spread our lightning safety message. We recruited young family members to help us and they were a hit, as they were draped in lightning bolts and clouds. The kids handed out beaded necklaces while the adults passed out lightning safety cards and thunderstorm safety bookmarks to hundreds of parade-goers.



NWS youngsters waiting for the start of the Hermantown SummerFest parade.



Participants in the SummerFest Parade included (l-r): hydrometeorologist Sam "the weatherman" Standfield, Information Technology Officer Toby TenHarmsel and his wife, Holly, meteorologist Amanda Brandt, meteorologist Andy Tingler and his wife Christina, and Warning Coordination Meteorologist Carol Christenson.

Inside this issue:

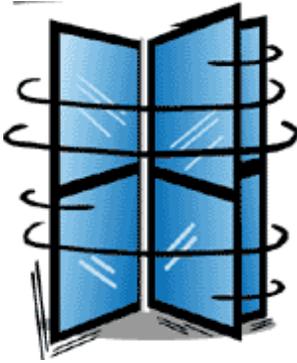
NWS Staff	2
Memoriam – Wes Jones	2
Website Makeover	3
Snow Time!	3
Lake Superior Weather	4
Co-op Corner	5

- Winter officially begins on December 21, 2005 at 12:35 pm CST.
- Winter Weather Awareness Week is November 7 - 11.
- We turn our clocks back one hour to revert to standard time on Sunday, October 30th.





Staff Changes at the NWS



We have gone through so many staff changes that sometimes it seems we should install a revolving door at our entrance. Here are some changes that we have seen in the past months:

First, the good-byes:

Ed Shimon, our past Science and Operations Officer left in April to be a senior forecaster at the National Weather Service Office in Lincoln, IL.

Forecaster Lance Tripoli left in May to become a forecaster at the El Paso, TX National Weather Service Office.

Craig Sanders, lead forecaster, retired on July 1.

Now the hellos:

Andrew Tingler came to us from southern Louisiana. He is a meteorologist intern and has been very helpful during severe weather. He received his degree in meteorology from the University of Louisiana– Monroe.

Welcome to **Amy Liles**, forecaster. Amy arrived here from Aberdeen, SD. Amy graduated with a degree in meteorology from St. Cloud State. You may have seen Amy's husband, Justin, also a meteorologist, on one of the local morning news shows.

Dan Miller arrived here this summer to become our new Science and Operations Officer. Dan came from Norman, OK, where he had been a forecaster. Dan is originally from Owatonna, MN. He received his meteorology degree from Iowa State University.

And congratulations are due to three of our staff members who received promotions:

Sam Standfield, who was promoted to observations program leader, **Greg Frosig**, who was promoted from general forecaster to senior forecaster, and to **Amanda Brandt**, who was promoted from meteorologist intern to general forecaster.



In Memoriam



Wes Jones, N9PHS, passed away on May 28th. He was one of the founding members of the NORWESCO RACES Skywarn volunteer network and kept the group active in spotting and reporting severe weather to the National Weather Service through the Skywarn ham network. As the warning coordination meteorologist at the Duluth NWS, I had the pleasure of working with Wes. He was smart, gracious, and a leader. He and his NORWESCO members received accolades from the NWS for the volunteer services they provide to the NWS, especially during the Burnett County, WI tornado.

Wes was a veteran of WWII where he fought at the Battle of the Bulge and was awarded the Bronze Star. He was a wildlife biologist and spent most of his career with the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

- Carol Christenson, KCOMAK



Website Makeover

Many changes and additions to the NWS website

Those of you familiar to the National Weather Service website, www.weather.gov/duluth, know about the huge amount of great weather and forecast information it contains. You may also have noticed that there have been some changes to the site.

Most of the changes were cosmetic and links were updated. However, the Northland Climate site has undergone a total transformation with loads of new features. Now, you can find **archived** climate products including the daily and monthly climate summaries dating back a whole year! In addition, there is a menu along the top of the climate page that provides climate and astronomical information. Also, check out the Local Data tab for all your Northland Climate needs!

There have also been some exciting additions to the website. There is a new **Science and Education** page. Included in this site is the **Northland's Weather Event Archive**, which will take you through summaries of past storms as well as the meteorology behind them. There is also an **Education** site for teachers and kids to explore, as well as a great new site all about **Lake Effect Snow**.

If you have any questions or comments about the website please let us know!

w-dlh.webmaster@noaa.gov

-Amanda Brandt, Web Team



It's Snow Time in No Time!

Snowfall Spotter Program Update

It is time to dust off those winter boots and prepare for the snow to fall. Some spotters have already had a glimpse of the white stuff this season, and the rest are not far behind! We rely on our Snowfall Spotters for reliable snowfall information that assists forecasters, as well as community officials, in making crucial winter weather decisions.

This will be the second year using the online reporting system, eSpotter, to send in snowfall reports. Last winter we received over 200 snowfall reports via eSpotter! Keep up the great work!

Here is a refresher of reporting procedures for snow spotters:

- * **Keep track of the time the snow began and ended.**
- * **Report once you receive 1 inch of new snow, 3 inches, 6 inches, and other significant amounts.**
- * **Report if you have freezing precipitation, significant drifting, or low visibility.**
- * **Don't forget to report your final snow total.**

For more information about snow, as well as the Snowfall Spotter Program, check out our winter weather website at

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dlh/winterwx.php>

Have a great winter season!!

-Amanda Brandt, Snowfall Program Manager

Amanda.Brandt@noaa.gov



New Marine Observations Coming to Lake Superior!



For years boaters on Lake Superior have told us they needed more information on the current weather for the lake. We listened, and for the past few years the NWS has been working to increase the number of Great Lakes weather observations available to forecasters and mariners. It has been quite a feat, but work is progressing nicely on this effort! Two automated weather observation sites for western Lake Superior will be installed this fall or next spring and more are slated for the future, as funds become available.

One will be located at Silver Bay, MN on a peninsula owned by North Shore Mining. Some of you may say, "Hey - there's already an observation at Silver Bay," but the truth is that the observation site is hundreds of feet away from the lake at the airport. The new weather site adjacent to North Shore Mining's plant will mean much more representative weather observations for the lake.

The second observation site will be located at Saxon Harbor, WI which lies near the Wisconsin and Michigan state line. This new site will fill a void for boaters traveling from the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore into the waters of upper Michigan, and also for boaters using the Saxon Harbor Marina as a homeport.

The observation equipment will be tailored to the marine environment, and will broadcast near real-time information on winds and temperatures. Other information may be added in the future if everything goes well.

Look for the new observations to be displayed on our webpage after they are turned on. We also hope to broadcast the information on our NOAA Weather Radio stations.

Currently the observing sites on the western end of Lake Superior include Devils Island at the Apostle Islands, Rock of Ages near Isle Royale, Grand Marais, MN waterfront, the Aerial Lift Bridge in Duluth, and a data buoy 48 miles north of Ironwood, MI.

-Dean Packingham, meteorologist

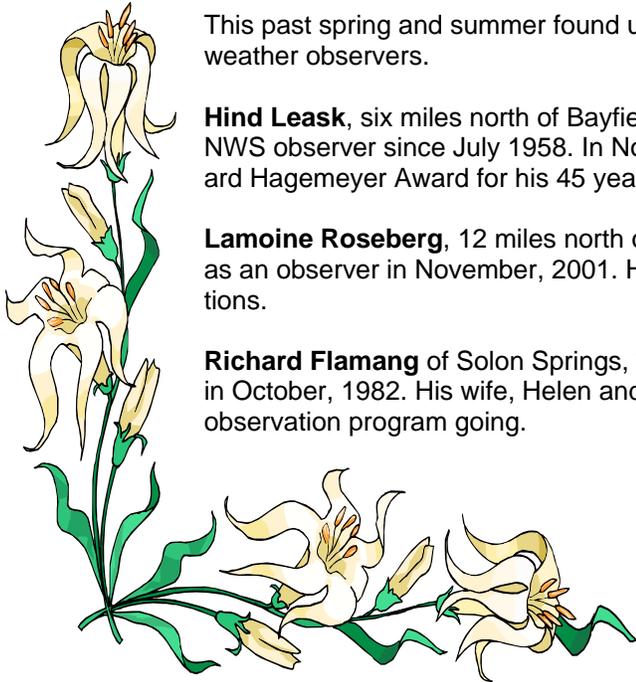
What did Frankenstein's monster say when he got struck by lightning?

-Ooooh, that felt good!





Co-op Corner



This past spring and summer found us mourning the loss of some of our cooperative weather observers.

Hind Leask, six miles north of Bayfield, WI passed away in May. Hind had been a NWS observer since July 1958. In November 2004 he received the prestigious Richard Hagemeyer Award for his 45 years of service to the Nation.

Lamoine Roseberg, 12 miles north of Isle, MN, passed away in August. She started as an observer in November, 2001. Her husband, Bob, continues to take observations.

Richard Flamang of Solon Springs, WI died in October. Dick began observing for us in October, 1982. His wife, Helen and the staff at the filling station have kept the observation program going.

Skywarn Numbers

226,792	Number of NWS Skywarn Spotters nationally
1767	Number of Spotters for Duluth NWS
793	Number of Spotters trained by Duluth this year
459	Number of Spotters returning for refresher training this year
334	Number of new Spotters this year
12	Number of times the Skywarn amateur radio network was activated this year.



Thank you, Spotters!



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5027 Miller Trunk Highway
Duluth, MN 55811

Phone: 218-729-6697

Editor: Carol Christenson

E-mail: carol.christenson@noaa.gov

Assistant Editor:

Edward Flenz

The Northland's weather experts



Winter Outlook

The NWS' Climate Prediction Center's winter outlook shows the Northland to be warmer than normal. The precipitation outlook calls for equal chances of above normal, normal, and below normal amounts.

US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
NOAA
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
5027 MILLER TRUNK HIGHWAY
DULUTH MN 55811